

# Ripped from the ROUNDUP

Ripped straight from the pages of old Space News Roundups, here's what happened at JSC on this date:

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**P**resident Johnson and his family came to Houston June 11 to bestow an honor on the crew of the Gemini IV mission and to pay his first visit to the Manned Spacecraft Center at the Clear Lake site.

The President praised Astronauts James A. McDivitt and Edward H. White II for their contribution to America's space program and announced that he had nominated them for the rank of lieutenant colonel in the Air Force. He also nominated Astronaut Virgil I. Grissom, also a major, for lieutenant colonel. Grissom was command pilot for the first manned Gemini flight.

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**C**hanges to be made in the Apollo spacecraft and procedures before the Apollo 14 mission will require postponing the launch to no earlier than January 31, 1971.

The changes and new date were announced June 30 by Dr. Thomas O. Paine, NASA Administrator, following a review of recommendations of the Apollo 13 Review Board, an evaluation of the Board's report by the NASA Aerospace Safety Advisory Panel, and recommendations by NASA's Office of Manned Space Flight.

The Review Board had reported that a short circuit ignited electrical insulation in spacecraft oxygen tank No. 2, causing failure of the tank, subsequent loss of electrical power and abort of the lunar-landing mission 200,000 miles from Earth on April 13.

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**H**ouston Mayor Kathy Whitmire co-piloted a Beechcraft Hawker 125 jet through a runway ribbon June 14, officially opening Ellington Field as a Houston civil aviation facility. Southwest Airport Services, which has been awarded a three-year interim contract to provide services at Ellington as the fixed base operator, also marked its grand opening June 14. The company which will do business at Ellington as Southwest Services, is providing fueling, tie downs, rental cars, taxis and hangar storage. The City of Houston assumed control of Ellington last year.

# Competition sparks girls' interest in math, science

By Eric Raub

**N**ASA, together with the Mayor's office, Texaco, and Women in Technology International, recently attempted to find a solution to the puzzling and dramatic drop in interest in math and science as potential fields of study and career areas for girls between the ages of 11-14. The result was the Girls in Technology 2000 (GIT2K) competition.

The competition was designed to increase interest in math, science, and technology for girls in the sixth through eighth grades in the Houston area. Alongside competitive spirit, the roughly 150 girls' interest in the event was also piqued by the chance to compete for impressive prizes.

"This competition was a good opportunity to spark girls' interest in math and science," said Jessie Hendrick of the Equal Opportunity Programs Office who served as the liaison to the competition organizers, Executive Women in Technology. "They also got a chance to see professional women at work, providing sorely needed science- and technology-oriented role models for these young women."

The girls were grouped into teams of four or five and were paired with a female mentor from the technology sector. They were then set to work on a potential problem the City of Houston will undoubtedly face in the future – an energy shortage. Each team had to select one of three problems to address: 1. In what ways can we harness alternate energy sources – wind, solar and water – to help power the City of Houston in the new millennium? 2. How can NASA use alternate energy sources in space? 3. How can energy companies use alternative energy sources? The possible solutions to these problems were many and included solar-powered cars and spacecraft, dams, windmills, and waterwheels.



Photos by James Blair

NASA JSC Photo 2000-04650

**Designed to increase interest in math, science, and technology for girls in the sixth through eighth grades in the Houston area, the Girls in Technology 2000 competition attracted about 150 girls whose interest in the event was also piqued by the chance to compete for impressive prizes.**  
1) Leaders in Lighting the Future team work on their winning satellite.  
2) Mentor Christie Sauers and her team build a windmill.  
3) As judge, Cathy Kramer evaluates a team project.



NASA JSC Photo 2000-04646

The teams were instructed to write out and address the problem on paper and then to construct a three-dimensional model of their solution with LEGOS®. The competition was held on April 29 and featured speakers Dr. Clarisse Behar Molad, Astronaut Bonnie Dunbar, Rachel Muir, Melissa Sconyers, and Estella Hernandez Gillette. The awards dinner was May 23 and included Cindy Clifford from Mayor Lee Brown's office and Janice Dorr.

GIT2K was related to, and preceded, the Mayor's Women in Technology Conference 2000 (WIT2K), an opportunity for women to discuss technology, trends, and success. Dr. Helen Lane, of NASA, kept the audience enthralled with her presentation on the applications of advanced NASA technology on Earth. The WIT2K was held May 24 at the George R. Brown Convention Center.



NASA JSC Photo 2000-04648

The winning team at GIT2K was team L, the Leaders in Lighting the Future, and consisted of Alysse, Heather, Jeanine, Julie, Meghan, and Rishika. JSC mentor Barbara Zelon led the girls, who designed and built a model of a geosynchronous orbit satellite to collect energy from the sun and take pictures from space of areas with dwindling resources. Other JSC participants in the event included Dorothy Rasco, Kathy Kaminski, Elizabeth Fountain, Gladys Henderson, Christie Sauers, Sharon LaFuse, Cathy Kramer, Ellen Braden, and Stacey Menard.

The grand prize consisted of free round-trip tickets to San Diego courtesy of Continental Airlines and free admission to Legoland courtesy of the LEGO® Corporation of America. Other prizes included scientific calculators, pagers, digital organizers, and cameras. ■

# TICKET WINDOW

The following discount tickets are available at the Exchange Stores

General Cinema Theaters	\$5.50
Sony Loew's Theaters	\$5.50
AMC Theaters	\$5.00
Fiesta Texas	adult \$20.50, child (under 48 inches) \$17.25
Astroworld	1 day \$21.00, 2 day \$31.00
WaterWorld	\$12.00
Moody Gardens (2 events) (does not include Aquarium Pyramid)	\$10.75
Moody Gardens (Aquarium only)	\$9.25
Sea World	adult \$29.00, child (3-11 years) \$19.25
Schlitterbahn	adult \$21.50, child (3-11 years) \$18.00
Space Center Houston	adult \$11.00, child (age 4-11) \$7.25 (JSC civil service employees free.)
Space Center Houston annual pass	\$18.75
Splash Town	1 day \$13.00, Season Pass \$37.50
Postage Stamps (book of 20)	\$6.60

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Bldg. 3 7 a.m.-4 p.m.  
Bldg. 11 9 a.m.-3 p.m.

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Please bring your driver's license to pay by personal check.

